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WORLD CUP FULL OF RIDDLES

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The fate of the Asian-Oceanic World Cup group is in the hands of God — or perhaps Allah.

The current Iraq-Iran war has added a new dimension of uncertainty to this usually volatile subgroup.

Last week ASF secretary Brian Le Fevre confirmed that Australia and New Zealand were unlikely to agree to major changes in the match schedules.

The only new date is Australia's home match against Taiwan (now called Taipei China), set for June 10.

Le Fevre said the preliminary group matches should be finished by the end of September.

"After that, anything can happen," he said.

"The four group winners could play in a tournament or on a home and away basis.

"If it's a tournament — and we fight that idea — where could it be held?

Rainstorm and floodlights combined to produce this stunning picture last week at the Charity match, showing Kosmina and Maher contesting a ball. Full story, more pictures on page 5.

"Suppose both Iran and Iran qualify; one is certain to withdraw.

"Iraq is banned by FIFA for two years from playing at home anyway.

"Would China be prepared to play in Tehran? Or, for that matter, would the others?

"And would it be safe?"

One recalls the 1985

events when, in one protest or another, all Asian countries withdrew until only one was left, North Korea.

They played — and beat — Australia twice and reached the finals in England.

A similar political storm is quite on the cards again later this year.

AMPOL CUP STARTS

The Ampol Cup starts this week with two double-headers, on Friday and Saturday.

See all the past results and our preview of the first round on pages 2-3.

ALL THE RESULTS OF PAST YEARS

1957:

(Known as Kennard Cup)
 Sydney Austral v Auburn 2-1
 Sydney Austral v Prague 3-0
 Lane Cove v Bankstown 2-1
 Hakoah v APIA 3-1
 Canterbury v Concord 2-1

SEMIFINALS:
 Hakoah v Canterbury 5-4
 Lane Cove v Sydney Austral 1-1
FINAL (Crowd 4,500):
 Hakoah v Lane Cove 5-1
 *Match decided on corners.

1958:

(Known as Kennard-Ampl Cup)
Round I:
 Canterbury v Sydney Austral 1-1
 Concord v APIA 2-0
 Corimal v Willawood 8-1
 Auburn v North Side 2-0
 Prague v Gladsville 2-1
 Hakoah v Bankstown 3-1

Round II:
 Canterbury v Concord 8-1
 Corimal v Auburn 4-2
 Prague & Hakoah: Byes

SEMIFINALS:
 Canterbury v Corimal 4-2
 Hakoah v Prague 3-2
FINAL (Crowd 8,028):
 Canterbury v Hakoah 4-3
 *Match decided on corner kicks.

1959:

Round I:
 Auburn v Sydney Austral 5-2
 Hakoah v Concord 2-1
 Canterbury v APIA 5-0
 Balgownie: bye
 Prague v North Side 5-0
 Gladsville v Budapest 2-1
 Corimal v Bankstown 3-1

Round II:
 Auburn v Hakoah 2-1
 Canterbury v Balgownie 1-0
 Prague v Gladsville 3-1
 Corimal v Bankstown 4-0

SEMIFINALS:
 Auburn v Canterbury 3-2
 Prague v Corimal 3-2
FINAL (Crowd 11,000):
 Prague v Auburn 7-0

1960:

Round I:
 Balgownie v Canterbury 2-1
 Prague v Sydney Austral 6-0
 Budapest v Corimal 4-2
 North Sydney EPT: bye
 Manly v Auburn 3-1
 APIA v Granville 5-3
 Hakoah v Bankstown 4-3
 Gladsville: bye

Round II:
 Prague v Balgownie 1-0
 Budapest v North Side 2-0
 APIA v Manly 1-0
 Hakoah v Gladsville 5-3

SEMIFINALS:
 Budapest v Prague 4-2
 APIA v Hakoah 1-0
FINAL (Crowd 8,860):
 Budapest v APIA 5-2

1961:

Round I:
 Canterbury v Granville 4-1
 Auburn v Bankstown 2-0
 Hakoah v Gladsville 3-0
 Pan Hellenic: bye
 Prague v South Coast 5-1
 Budapest v Sydney Austral 3-2
 APIA v Balgownie 3-0
 Polonia North Side: bye

Round II:
 Canterbury v Auburn 2-0
 Hakoah v Pan Hellenic 2-1
 Prague v Budapest 2-1
 APIA v Polonia 1-0

SEMIFINALS:
 Hakoah v Canterbury 5-0
 Prague v APIA 2-1
FINAL (Crowd 17,452):
 Prague v Hakoah 6-3

1962:

Round I:
 Budapest v Bankstown 0-0
 Canterbury v Polonia 3-1
 Yugal v Pan Hellenic 2-1
 Gladsville v South Coast 2-1
 Budapest v Bankstown 3-2
 *First drawn match replayed.

Round II:
 Canterbury v Hakoah 1-0
 APIA v Budapest 2-0
 Yugal v Auburn 4-3
 Prague v Gladsville 2-0

SEMIFINALS:
 Prague v Yugal 4-4
 Canterbury v APIA 5-1
 Prague v Yugal 4-2
 *First drawn match replayed.

FINAL (Crowd 12,600):
 Prague v Canterbury 3-2

1963:

Round I:
 Yugal v South Coast 2-0
 APIA v Bankstown 2-1
 Auburn v Hakoah 5-3
 Prague v Pan Hellenic 2-1

Round II:
 Yugal v Croatia 6-2
 APIA v Gladsville 4-1
 Auburn v Canterbury 2-1
 Prague v Budapest 3-2

SEMIFINALS:
 Auburn v Prague 2-2
 Yugal v APIA 3-1
 Auburn v Prague 2-1
 *First drawn match replayed.
FINAL (Crowd 7,000):
 Yugal v Auburn 5-3

1964:

Round I:
 Yugal v Corinthians 3-1
 Budapest v Canterbury 1-1
 Croatia v Bankstown 4-0
 Hakoah v Cumberland 2-0
 Budapest v Canterbury 3-1
 *First drawn match replayed.

Round II:
 Budapest v South Coast 3-0
 APIA v Yugal 3-2
 Croatia v Pan Hellenic 5-3
 Prague v Hakoah 3-0

SEMIFINALS:
 Prague v Croatia 2-1
 APIA v Budapest 2-1
FINAL (Crowd 9,400):
 Prague v APIA 2-1

1965:

Round I:
 Metro* v Cumberland 1-0
 Hakoah v Polonia NS 2-0

Round II:
 Yugal v Budapest 2-0
 Metro v Pan Hellenic 3-1
 Hakoah v South Coast 3-3
 Prague v APIA 3-2
 Hakoah v South Coast 2-1
 *Metro was new name for Croatia.

SEMIFINALS:
 Yugal v Metro 3-0
 Prague v Hakoah 4-3
FINAL (Crowd 5,500):
 Prague v Yugal 6-2

1966:

Group I:
 Prague v Croatia 5-1
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 Prague v South Coast 1-0
 Pan Hellenic v APIA 2-0
 South Coast v Croatia 4-1
 Pan Hellenic v Prague 1-1
 Pan Hellenic v Croatia 3-0
 APIA v Prague 3-1
 APIA v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v Pan Hel 1-0
 1. APIA, 2. Prague.

Group II:
 Yugal v St. George 2-1
 Hakoah v Cumberland 1-0
 Yugal v Corinthians 2-0
 Hakoah v St. George 2-1
 St. George v Cumberland 3-0
 Hakoah v Corinthians 1-1
 Corinthians v St. George 1-1
 Yugal v Cumberland 2-1
 Corinthians v Cumberland 0-0
 Hakoah v Yugal 1-0
 1. Hakoah, 2. Yugal

SEMIFINALS:
 Hakoah v Prague 2-0
 APIA v Yugal 3-0
FINAL (Crowd 8,700):
 APIA v Hakoah 1-0

1967:

Group I:
 APIA v Canterbury 5-1
 St. George v South Coast 2-0
 Yugal v Cumberland 5-2
 APIA v South Coast 2-2
 Yugal v Canterbury 1-1
 St. George v Cumberland 8-2
 Canterbury v South Coast 2-1
 APIA v Yugal 1-1
 St. George v Canterbury 3-1
 APIA v Cumberland 3-1
 South Coast v Cumberland 3-0
 St. George v Yugal 3-2
 Cumberland v Canterbury 3-2
 Yugal v South Coast 2-2
 St. George v APIA 3-1
 1. St. George, 2. APIA

Group II:
 Pan Hellenic v Melita 1-1
 Hakoah v Prague 1-0
 Croatia v Polonia 1-1
 Pan Hellenic v Prague 1-1
 Croatia v Melita 1-0
 Hakoah v Polonia 1-0
 Melita v Prague 2-1
 Croatia v Pan Hellenic 1-1
 Melita v Hakoah 1-0
 Pan Hellenic v Polonia 3-1
 Prague v Polonia 3-2
 Hakoah v Croatia 1-0
 Croatia v Prague 2-1
 Hakoah v Pan Hellenic 1-1
 Polonia v Melita 2-0
 1. Hakoah, 2. Pan Hellenic

SEMIFINALS:
 St. George v Pan Hellenic 3-1
 Hakoah v APIA 1-0
FINAL (Crowd 7,000):
 St. George v Hakoah 2-0

1968:

Group I:
 APIA v Melita 2-0
 Croatia v Prague 1-0
 Manly v Canterbury 2-2
 Prague v APIA 2-1
 Melita v Manly 3-1
 Canterbury v Croatia 3-2
 APIA v Manly 2-0
 Prague v Melita 3-0
 Croatia v Melita 1-0
 APIA v Canterbury 3-2
 Prague v Canterbury 9-1
 Croatia v Manly 2-0
 Manly v Prague 1-0
 APIA v Croatia 2-0
 Canterbury v Melita 1-0
 1. APIA, 2. Prague

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Pan Hellenic v Yugal 4-0
 St. George v Polonia 3-0
 Pan Hellenic v Polonia 3-0
 Hakoah v South Coast 2-0
 Yugal v South Coast 2-0
 Hakoah v St. George 3-1
 Polonia v Yugal 0-0
 Pan Hellenic v South Coast 2-0
 Yugal v St. George 2-2
 Hakoah v Pan Hellenic 2-0
 St. George v South Coast 3-0
 Polonia v Poland 2-0
 Hakoah v Yugal 1-1
 Polonia v South Coast 3-1
 St. George v Pan Hellenic 2-0
 1. Hakoah, 2. St. George.

SEMIFINALS:
 Hakoah v Prague 1-1
 St. George v APIA 4-2
FINAL (Crowd 6,000):
 Hakoah v St. George 1-0

1969:

Group I:
 APIA v Yugal 3-0
 Hakoah v St. George 1-0
 Polonia v Canterbury 1-0
 Hakoah v Yugal 2-1
 Polonia v St. George 1-1
 APIA v Canterbury 1-0
 St. George v Yugal 2-0
 Hakoah v Polonia 1-0
 Hakoah v Canterbury 3-0
 St. George v APIA 3-1
 Canterbury v Yugal 4-2
 APIA v Polonia 3-0
 Yugal v Hakoah 3-0
 St. George v Canterbury 6-0

Group II:
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 1-0
 Prague v Melita 1-0
 Croatia v South Coast 1-0
 Pan Hellenic v Melita 3-1
 Melita v Auburn 1-1
 Pan Hellenic v South Coast 2-1
 Prague v Auburn 2-0
 Pan Hellenic v Croatia 2-0
 Croatia v Melita 1-1
 Prague v South Coast 3-1
 South Coast v Auburn 2-1
 Prague v Croatia 0-0
 Auburn v Croatia 2-0
 Pan Hellenic v Prague 1-0
 1. Pan Hellenic, 2. Prague.

SEMIFINALS:
 Prague v APIA 2-0
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 2-1
FINAL (Crowd 13,700):
 Prague v Pan Hellenic 3-2

1970:

Group I:
 APIA v Prague 1-0
 Canterbury v Auburn 1-0
 South Coast v Yugal 3-3
 South Coast v Canterbury 3-1
 Prague v Yugal 2-1
 APIA v Auburn 2-1
 Prague v Canterbury 2-1
 South Coast v Auburn 4-0
 Auburn v Yugal 4-0
 APIA v Pan Hellenic 3-1
 Hakoah v Marconi 1-1
 Hakoah v Pan Hellenic 4-0
 Marconi v Melita 5-1
 Pan Hellenic v St. George 1-1
 Marconi v Pan Hellenic 6-4
 Hakoah v Melita 2-0
 St. George v Croatia 4-1
 Melita v Croatia 1-1
 Hakoah v Pan Hellenic 4-0
 St. George v Marconi 3-1
 Melita v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Hakoah v St. George 2-2
 Marconi v Croatia 3-2
 1. St. George, 2. Hakoah.

SEMIFINALS:
 Hakoah v South Coast 1-0
 APIA v St. George 3-2
FINAL (Crowd 10,100):
 APIA v South Coast 2-0

1971:

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Hakoah v Auburn 5-0
 Wests v Marrickville 3-0
 Hakoah v Marrickville 4-0
 Ryde v Auburn 3-2
 Wests v Ryde 3-1
 Marrickville v Auburn 3-1
 Pan Hellenic v Hakoah 1-1
 Ryde v Pan Hellenic 4-2
 Pan Hellenic v Marrickville 2-0
 Hakoah v Ryde 0-0
 Wests v Pan Hellenic 1-0
 Auburn v Wests 0-0
 Ryde v Marrickville 3-2
 Pan Hellenic v Auburn 0-0
 Wests v Hakoah 0-0
 1. Ryde, 2. Wests

Group II:
 APIA v South Coast 2-0
 St. George v Prague 2-1
 APIA v Croatia 5-1
 Prague v Marconi 4-3
 Marconi v Croatia 2-1
 South Coast v St. George 2-1

Group I:
 Prague v South Coast 3-1
 APIA v Marconi 3-1
 Prague v Croatia 0-0
 Croatia v St. George 4-2
 St. George v APIA 3-3
 Marconi v South Coast 2-0
 Marconi v St. George 4-2
 APIA v Prague 3-0
 South Coast v Croatia 2-1
 1. APIA, 2. Marconi

SEMIFINALS:
 Marconi v Ryde 3-2
 Wests v APIA 2-0
FINAL (Crowd 7,540):
 Wests v Marconi 4-2
 *Marrickville was formerly known as Canterbury.
 *Ryde was previously Yugal.

1972:

Group I:
 Marconi v Hakoah 1-0
 Wests v Croatia 2-1
 Auburn v Sutherland 1-0
 Wests v Sutherland 1-0
 Marconi v Croatia 2-0
 Auburn v Hakoah 4-4
 Hakoah v Wests 1-0
 Sutherland v Croatia 3-2
 Marconi v Auburn 2-0
 Auburn v Croatia 2-1
 Hakoah v Sutherland 2-2
 Marconi v Wests 3-1
 Marconi v Sutherland 2-1
 Hakoah v Croatia 1-0
 Wests v Auburn 2-1
 1. Marconi, 2. Hakoah.

Group II:
 Prague v APIA 3-0
 St. George v South Coast 2-1
 Yugal v Pan Hellenic 2-2

Group I:
 Marconi v Hakoah 1-0
 Wests v Croatia 2-1
 Auburn v Sutherland 1-0
 Wests v Sutherland 1-0
 Marconi v Croatia 2-0
 Auburn v Hakoah 4-4
 Hakoah v Wests 1-0

AMPOL CUP

"New" Croatia on display

The 23rd Ampol Cup gets under way this week with two matches at Seymour Shaw Park on Friday night.

This year's Ampol Cup also has a few new faces and a few 'prodigal sons.'

The new faces are Fairy Meadow and Wollongong both representing the long forgotten South Coast though the team from the 'Gong did take part last year.

Both St. George and Polonia are great names from the past history of the Cup and compete once again, Polonia through their promotion last year and St. George after dropping out of the PSL.

The first round matches give fans and critics alike a chance to check out two of the teams tipped to be leaders this year again: Melita and Croatia.

The first match on Friday is the North Sydney Inter clash with Wollongong.

North Sydney will be put to the test in this match to see if they have found an able replacement for Frank Leyden who went to APIA.

Wollongong are a relatively unknown quantity, but judging by their performance in the last Ampol Cup they won't be a pushover.

If North Sydney can maintain their form of the latter half of 1980 they should win.

The second match of the evening sees Melita take on Manly.



Former St. George man Nigel Groome, now a State League star.

Melita, under the guidance of Vic Dalgleish, will be keen to prove they are once again the best team in the State League and deserve PSL status.

They still have the bulk of last year's squad and should once again be pace-setters.

Manly have been hampered by a few setbacks: George Townsend's return to Britain means that last year's defence, which proved so rugged, is now all but dismantled.

It seems hard to go past a Melita win in this match.

On Saturday, at St. George's beautiful stadium, Inter Monaro play Fairy Meadow and Croatia does battle with Parramatta.

Inter Monaro have great hopes for this year — and a win would do the team's morale the world of good.

But Fairy Meadow are another unknown quantity and are unlikely to succumb with a fight.

With a new coach — Joe Arquero — and a new spirit from all reports, Monaro should be too strong.

Croatia always have tough battles against Parramatta, and the first match of the season for these two sides should prove no exception.

Croatia have bought several players in the hope of recapturing the lost glories of the 'Abonyi Era'.

This match will be the chance for Montgomery, Mozart, Marcos Silva & Co. to prove their worth.

But the Parramatta boys won't be easy pickings.

Coach Bob Wall said the side had been training well and looked sharp.

His young star of the future, Peter Boden has also been shaping up well.

This will be a tough match for Croatia to win — despite Parramatta's low prestige — but I think they should have enough class to get home.

• Cont. from page 2

Bankstown v Auburn	2-1
Monaro v Yugal	5-1
Auburn v Monaro	1-0
Bankstown v Yugal	2-0

GROUP 3	
Manly v Olympic	0-1
Olympic v Parramatta	4-0
Sutherland v Manly	1-0
Olympic v Sutherland	2-1
Manly v Parramatta	2-0
Sutherland v Parramatta	2-0

GROUP 4	
Melita v Arncliffe	1-1
Nth. Sydney v Avala	2-1
Arncliffe v Nth. Sydney	4-2
Avala v Melita	1-0
Melita v Arncliffe	1-1
Melita v Nth. Sydney	4-0

SEMIFINALS	
Olympic v Bankstown	2-1
Croatia v Sutherland	2-1

FINAL	
Olympic v Croatia	1-0

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 Nth. Sydney v Wollongong Utd. 6.45pm
 Melita Eagles v Manly 8.30pm
 (at Seymour Shaw)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7
 Inter Monaro v Fairy Meadow 6.45pm
 Croatia v Parramatta 8.30pm
 (at St. George Stadium)

NEXT WEEK

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13
 Cant. M'ville v Bankstown 6.45pm
 St. George v Arncliffe 8.30pm
 (at St. George Stadium)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
 Auburn v Sutherland 6.45pm
 Avala v Polonia 8.30pm
 (at Seymour Shaw)

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North Sydney Inter's coach and former great Sydney player PHIL BOT- TALICO was rushed to hospital last week with a sudden attack of appendicitis. Club secretary and long time friend ARCHIE BLUE said Phil was treated promptly which prevented serious complications. He is now recovering in Lewisham Hospital.

Melita still have four of last year's players on transfer list, VIC JUCHNIEWICZ, BRIAN PARKER, PHIL MIKAS and BOBBY McPHERSON are all free to train with any prospective buyers, said club president EMMANUEL SAID. Phil Mikas is training with St. George, but none of the other players have yet been approached.

Inter Monaro have been unable to get too many pre-season matches with Sydney teams. Club PR man JOE CHIERA said they've had to content themselves with matches against ACT teams and clubs from the new proposed Southern League. This week they have their last trial match, against new ACT team Belconnen before tackling Fairy Meadow in the Ampol Cup.

Arnccliffe played Leichhardt last week in a friendly match and went down 3-1 in a tough battle.

North Sydney Inter are expecting a new signing from Scotland within two weeks. He is TOMMY STEVEN from the Dunfermline club in the Scottish first division. Club secretary ARCHIE BLUE feels the 25-year-old midfielder will be a great success with Inter, and in fact tips him to move on to the PSL after settling in Australia.

Inter Monaro have signed a young Canberra City player. He is MARK FRANCIS who played in Canberra's youth team last year. Monaro PR man JOE CHIERA said the 20-year-old had impressed Monaro officials and coach JOE ARQUERO and they had no hesitation in signing him.

Melita are negotiating for the transfer of PAUL THOMSON from Bankstown. Melita's president EMMANUEL SAID feels the deal could be clinched this week.

Arnccliffe Scots — or Riverwood Soccer Club — still have both ALAN AINSLIE and BILLY BULLOCH on the transfer list after neither player could agree with the club for the 1981 season.

Croatia's stylish midfielder of last year ZDENKO KAFKA has been sold to LEICHHARDT in the PSL for \$12,000.

It seems unlikely that HENRY SELFRIDGE will be coaching Parramatta's reserve grade team this year. Club officials say Henry will probably relinquish his position because of his job commitments.

Riverwood's coach Atti Abonyi is causing some nervousness among several club officials.

The club has played several trial games against both State League and PSL teams, with only one win, and many more losses. However, secretary ERIC SMITH said Atti had warned the club he would experiment with the talent he has available before making any inroads on the transfer market. Atti said it may only be halfway through the Ampol Cup before he decides to buy, if at all. Eric's only advice to impatient fans and officials is: wait and watch the Abonyi magic.

Melita have appointed an advertising manager for their new ground. JIM BORG will be the club's man in charge of getting advertising for the fence around the ground.

"Manly always gives us a hard time," said Melita President Emmanuel Said. "But I think we'll win the match this year," he added. The two teams meet this week in the first round of the Ampol Cup and Melita fans will be hoping the result is the same as that two years ago when Melita whacked Manly 8-0 at the St. George Stadium — their venue on Saturday.

Melita played a friendly match last week against Mount Druitt from the Second Division and won 4-0.

Parramatta's PERCY BIGLANDS has returned from holidays and is getting back into hard training in preparation for the Ampol Cup.

Auburn's attacking midfielder JOHN McCANOR has been plagued with a recurring knee injury since he started training this year. It looked as if he was on the road to recovery last week when he again broke down during a trial match.

CLUB PATROL

AROK'S TRUANTS BACK IN HARNESS



Peter Stone back in training with the Saints.

Frank Arok, the St. George supreme, has started to crack his famous whip.

Two of his reluctant players hankering for a transfer, Billy Griffiths and Denis Duarte, have changed their tune and are staying with the Saints.

John Russell is back from holidays, although late.

"I wouldn't have let Griffiths and Duarte go, as they have valid contracts," Arok said this week.

"I told them if they wouldn't play for us, they can watch the whole season from the grandstand. They understood."

"I think they will settle back quickly and help us win the NSW State League; both are excellent players."

The only missing player is Peter Beggs, still holidaying in England.

Meanwhile, the club's two imports from Yugoslavia arrived last weekend.

They are — Dezso Marton, 31, a striker and Velizar Kanacki, 29, a midfielder.

They played with amateur clubs last season in order to facilitate their migration.

Before that Marton was with Novisad and Spartacus Subotica and Kanacki with Novisad.

In 1980 Marton was the top scorer in the regional league of the Vojvodina district.

Both arrived with a one-year contract and option for extension.

The third reinforcement for the Saints, English stopper David Ryland, 26, will arrive on Friday.

Recent training matches have pleased Arok not only because of the results but because of the new spirit of the players.

Last week the Saints beat Sutherland 5-1 then on Sunday they played

Avala with two "split" A-teams, winning 10-2 and 3-0.

Arok said he was planning a special farewell match for Doug Utjesenovic.

He will gather together the "old" stars of St. George and arrange a match against a mixed side of former internationals from Marconi, Sydney City and Leichhardt.

Another long-serving player, Rudi Gnani, the polished Argentinian, has been given a free-transfer listing by Arok for his past services to the club.

"Gnani doesn't fit into my long-term plans but through his sheer class, I'm sure he will be a tremendous success anywhere he goes," Arok said.



Melita's midfield general John Stoddart.



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Report on PSL '81

City defence "slackers"

— By Andrew Dettre —

Even allowing for the fact that Sydney City are notoriously slow starters in most years, their match last week in the Charity Challenge revealed disturbing defensive weaknesses.

One thing is certain: their back-four, in this composition, would be extremely vulnerable.

The Cant-Spanos duo at the centre of the defence is unlikely to be tried again.

They marked poorly and left enormous gaps which Marconi couldn't leave unexploited.

Steve O'Connor's height and speed was sorely missed but even

then, they are likely to be a trifle fragile.

Barnes, lost in midfield, would have been much more effective at sweeper and it wouldn't be a surprise to see coach Eddie Thomson settle for an O'Connor-Barnes tandem there.

Souness was fast, enterprising and aggressive at fullback — but he, too, is basically a midfielder and probably stays at the back until the return of Mullen, still struggling with a stomach problem.

Jimmy Cant made an unhappy debut for his new club, quite apart from the tragic own goal but even the usually solid Bruce was floun-

dering for most of the game.

Boden, in midfield, is a luxury; it seems odd that this skilled, clever player with a nose for goals is asked to reduce himself to the role of a grey eminence.

Watson, used as a striker, is more at home in midfield so Thomson may consider a swap here.

Kosmina was extremely passive without his once spectacular mobility — but he will improve.

Murray, on the other hand, was an instant success on the wing and is likely to be a great success.

Trenter and Silva were both out of touch while Borges compounded his mediocre display with a vicious foul.

Marconi's problems are of a different nature: they are losing too many players with injuries.

Degney is still unfit to resume, Hunter is on crutches, Jankovic will be out for many weeks and now they've lost Lindsay with a bad injury, possibly for months.

It says a lot for the sheer class of Henderson that despite his recent painful groin injury, he was still by far the best player on the field.

He is one of those rarities who can hit a precise 30-40 metre pass, beat one or two opponents with a breezy run and speed up the tempo of his team.

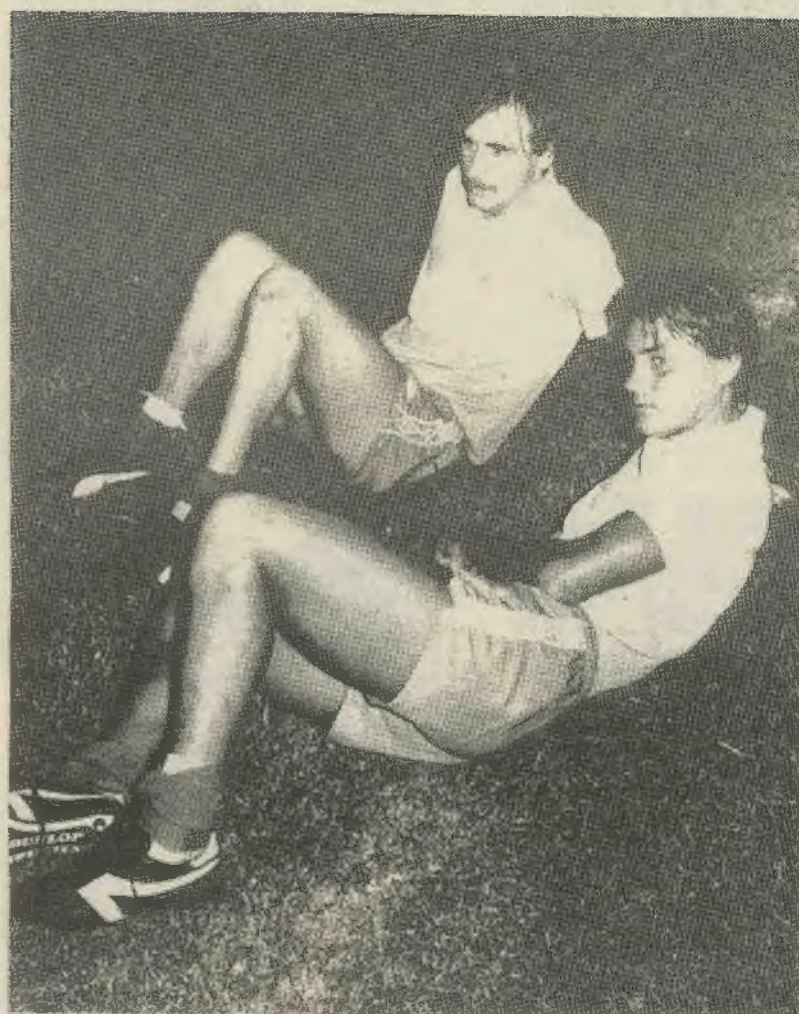
We have said it before but it bears repeating: Henderson is probably the best soccer player in Australia.

The Marconi defence stood its ground fairly well though Prskalo tends to be unnecessarily negative and Muir is inclined to turn himself into a one-man punishing expedition, whether it's needed or not.

Young Tomisich at fullback is developing well and could soon demand a permanent spot in the team.

In midfield it was Henderson's show. Neither of his partners, Byrne or Raskopoulos, are near their peak yet.

A great deal of Marconi's results in 1981 will depend on what role is



Sydney City's new striker Willie Murray (left) with Jim Cant before extra time in last week's match.

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Teams set for the Cup

Both Philips League sides wound up their pre-season preparation during the week and are now faced with the prospect of kicking off in a Philips Cup tie which they must win if they are to be in with a chance of increasing their watching public this year.

Brisbane City will have cause for butterflies in their match with Mt. Gravatt for it will be remembered that the State League side were the nemesis of City's 1980 Cup campaign when they lost 0-1 at Perry Park.

BRISBANE

By Jim Binnie

It was that match that also saw the departure of Nereo Saffich from the coaching position so it is obvious that the club treat the Philips Cup with some importance.

What are City's chances this year of annexing the trophy they won twice?

The team is not going well at the moment and it is hard to put a finger on what is going wrong on the field.

On paper the squad is strong and looks to be capable but so far their on-field performances do not back up this analysis.

In fact, what could be described as their strongest team, struggled fitfully to beat a weakened Mt. Gravatt team 1-0 (by virtue of a penalty) in a pre-season competition match last week.

It will be remembered this same Mt. Gravatt are City's first round opponents.

Paul Wilkinson is quickly settling in as target man but much of the work he does well is not being capitalised on and this is leading to the same old frustrations that plagued the team last year.

However, Kelso is reported to be back in training with the club and his presence could mean the goals will start to flow once again.

Lions, who will be out to surpass last year's semifinal attainment will come up against an unknown quantity in Townsville United.

Very little news filters through in our daily media despite the fact that Townsville have long ago replaced rugby league sides as the Northern favourites.

Certainly the torrential rain experienced in recent weeks will not have helped Tim White in his preparation and it is hard to see Lions losing to a team that did not perform too well away from home last season.

TRIALS

The two teams played State League clubs in their final "trial games". Lions meeting last year's champions Mt. Gravatt while City, as expected, met Grange Thistle in the final of the Coca-Cola sponsored pre-season tournament.

Lions ran out winners by scoring a goal in each half, firstly through Millman then by new boy Ferris.

On the other side of the city the PSL team proved too strong for Grange Thistle and although the scoreline was close — a Paul Wilkinson counter being the winner — Brisbane City were always in control and won the prize money.

Just for fun

The early game to the Charity Challenge was a lighthearted affair.

Several TV and stage personalities had their chance to prove their comic talent.

There was Di Fisher, socialite, newspaper columnist and inventor's devil's advocate, clashing, "fighting" and embracing with Rocky Gattellari, ex-boxer and current extrovert.

There were also the panting Ronnie Frazer and Stuart Wagstaff, Noel Ferrier, the rotund bon vivant Len Evans, the red-bikini'd Belinda Green as well as sporting stars like Alex Jesaulenko, Tom Raudonikis and others taking part in the fun.

Rudi Gutendorf also played though he looked sheepish, if not embarrassed; for him soccer is a serious business, not a comedy.

But the game served its purpose; it helped raise some funds for various children's organisations.

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ADELAIDE

By Vic Miglaccio

West Adelaide's powerful midfielder Neil McGachey.

Farce steals Dinamo show

Dinamo Zagreb beat South Australia 1-0 at Hindmarsh Stadium last Wednesday night to score their only win on their four-match Australian tour.

The match will be remembered for many years to come, not for the excitement on the park, as it hardly produced any great moments, but for the scandalous event that was allowed to happen less than 36 hours before the game when SA State coach Brian Dooley was dismissed from his duties after a disagreement with Federation officials.

The trouble started on Sunday morning at training when seven PSL players did not attend.

The players involved were: Peter Marshall, David Jones, brothers Buggy and John Nyskohus, Bobby Russell, Agenor Muniz (Ad. City) and Graham Honeyman (Westad).

On Monday night on announcing the final

squad, Dooley axed all of them.

According to "The News" back page story the following day, "the sky fell in at Hindmarsh with lots of heated arguments between coach and officials, when Dooley announced replacements." The article stated that the SASF official refused to accept Dooley's decision on players and he was sacked.

At the same time Dooley was also sacked from coaching the SA U-19 side which is presently contesting the Ampol Cup night series.

On Tuesday newly appointed Woodville Beograd coach Zoran Matic was appointed stop-gap coach for the match.

"I learned of my dismissal from members of the Press and not from SASF officials, and to this day I have not received any official communication from the SASF," said Dooley.

At the match, from the

outset it was obvious that the visitors were not very interested, merely concerned not to let SA win.

The SA defence played at its best with Bobby Russell, David Jones and Buggy

Nyskohus controlling the few Dinamo attacks with ease.

The only goal of the match was scored in the 63rd minute with a well placed header.

Dinamo: Vlak, Bracun, Justedamagic, Zajek, Lucak (Kurtela 18m), Bogdan, Poljak (Bosnjak 45m), Deveric, Milinaric, Cvetkovic, Kovacevic.

Sth.Aust: Marshall, Russell, B. Nyskohus, Jones, Dooley (Amos 72m), Marwee, Muniz, J. Nyskohus, Boyle (Mahony 79m), Bozanic, Bell.

Crowd: 8,200.

Adelaide clubs face disaster

The popularity of top soccer in Adelaide is rapidly declining and unless something is done about it quickly, I predict that within three years the two PSL clubs, Adelaide City and West Adelaide may have to return to the local competition.

There is no way they can survive within a budget of \$250,000 which is needed yearly to keep the clubs going.

It's no secret that both clubs are having big financial troubles, and at this stage there is no sign of recovery.

The clubs hope that gates will increase this coming season but even having dropped the entrance fee to \$3 and introducing the \$5 family ticket, it's hard to imagine that this will be the solution.

The signs are that support may drop even further if performances do not improve.

To boost gates, both PSL clubs need to invest big money on promotion and I feel that the golden days of 1977 and 1978 when the average crowd to a PSL match was nearly 10,000, may return.

Both clubs should forget the big time promotion promises that all too frequently come from our Sydney headquarters and handle their own affairs.

The so-called "americanisation" is useless unless a lot of money is available to spend on promotion.

Let's not get carried away with Mickey Mouse ideas and remember that 80% of support in soccer in this country still comes from European migrants.

Adelaide soccer deserves to have at least one representative in the national team.

We certainly have good enough players who could walk into the present squad.

Surely players like Peter Marshall, Martyn Crook, Bobby Russell, Vic Bozanic, David Jones, Gary Marocchi, Agenor Muniz, Buggy and John Nyskohus are equal if not better than any of the present players in the national side.

Local TV Channel 9 will screen all of Australia's preliminary World Cup matches live and it will be a great boost to the game in Adelaide if a local player is in the team.

Of course, top players from both clubs don't help the situation.

Every year many demand a big signing-on fee.

Players seem to forget that only four years ago the majority of them were lucky to receive little more than \$50 a week.

Last season the SASF boasted that all coaches in charge of various State teams had been trained and qualified under their own development plans and the results produced were some of the best on record.

This season, judged by the experiences of deposed coach Brian Dooley, the first two appointments (Zoran Matic and Steve Deheleanu, U-19) show a complete departure from last year's policy.

One can only hope that these appointments were made after sound consideration and not just on the spur of the moment.

Let's also hope the "wisdom" of the SA board will bring the success they so badly need in the present depressing period.

Villani back

Charlie Villani marked his return to top soccer after a nagging knee injury and scored two good goals to help Adelaide City beat the Amateur State team 3-1 at Hindmarsh Stadium in the third round of the Ampol Cup.

Adelaide City's other goal was scored by Gary Marocchi while Mark Papas scored for the Amateurs.

The early match produced a shock result when a Second Division Select beat Croatia 2-1.

Only two weeks ago Croatia cleaned up West Adelaide 1-0.

Tonight's (Wednesday) Ampol Cup matches are Para Hills v Cumberland United and West Adelaide v U-19.

On Sunday the first round of the Phillips Cup will be played at Hindmarsh Stadium bet-

ween Adelaide City and Croatia.

West Adelaide and Para Hills will meet for their first round match on February 11 while Cumberland United have a bye.

★ ★ ★

Good news for West Adelaide fans: Martyn Crook who received a back injury at work before Christmas started training again last week and reported no side effects.

He should be fit to return for the opening PSL match on February 15 against Brisbane City.

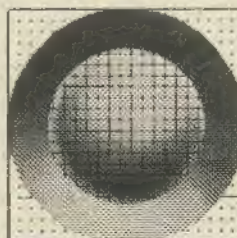
New import Nev Flounders, a midfielder from Sunderland who was expected to arrive this week, is having visa trouble and will now arrive a few days before the start of the PSL.

★ ★ ★

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Marconi snatch win with stormy finish

Report
on
PSL '81

Three players booked, one sent off, another carried off on a stretcher, brawl on the grandstand, brawl on the field — welcome to season 1981.

The Charity Challenge match last Friday night in Sydney was anything but a friendly prelude to the year.

The keen rivalry between Marconi and Sydney City ensured that every blade of grass was contested with the fierceness befitting last year's cupwinners and champions.

However, the standard of the match itself and the display of the two teams disappointed.

With suitable charity for the occasion, one can only say that both teams are likely to improve vastly over the next few weeks.

They would have to... Sydney City could have gone into the lead after two minutes when a careless pass by a Marconi defender found Kosmina alone but he shot wide.

Some 21 minutes later the effervescent Henderson's header was volleyed wide by Sharne at the other end.

On the whole, the first half was dull. Only the dazzling footwork of City's newcomer Willie Murray and the accurate, long passes of Henderson saved the game from complete tedium.

Towards the end things livened up a bit: Muir was cautioned for his third bad foul, then Byrne and Souness went into the referee's book for fighting.

It looked like a frustrating scoreless



Marconi fullback Peter Brogan between Sydney City's Hilton Silva and Ian Bruce.

draw when, in the 75th minute, Sydney City forged ahead.

Jimmy Cant, newly signed from Marconi, sliced a perfect pass onto Kosmina's head and the other City newcomer glided the ball into the corner.

Four minutes later Sharne broke free, beat Pezzano but his shot was blocked by Murray inside the penalty box.

With less than a minute remaining, the officials were getting ready for the ceremony of handing the splendid crystal trophy to Sydney City.

But Sharne had other ideas. With a long ball from Henderson he dashed off on the right and sent in a sharp cross into the goalmouth, towards Krncevic.

Jimmy Cant, racing

back, got to the ball first — and headed home the most "perfect" own goal to even the score.

As a colleague aptly remarked: Cant must have been programmed by Marconi before transferring to the Slickers...

The real action came in extra time.

In the 99th minute

Mariani stumbled and fumbled before winning a hopeless ball, slipped

it to Henderson whose pass found the unmarked Sharne — and it was 2-1.

Seven minutes later salt was rubbed into the open wound. Another tremendous 30-metre pass from Henderson dropped in front of Sharne in the middle and the speedster, despite an earlier injury which made him limp for over an hour, zoomed through to skirt Pezzano and steer the ball into the empty net.

The issue was put to rest — but tempers were still frayed.

Barely a minute later Borges, a substitute, went over the ball in "classic" fashion and Marconi's Lindsay had to be carried off on a stretcher with torn ligaments.

Borges was sent off, only to be abused and pelted by fans and rubbish by the irate Marconi

fans while on the field small scuffles broke out among friends and foes.

But the score remained 3-1 for Marconi, a tremendous, almost miraculous recovery from the brink of certain defeat.

MARCONI: Maher 5, Brogan 3, Muir 3, Henderson 5, Prskalo 4, Tomasich 3, Byrne 3, Raskopoulos 3 (Lindsay 97m), Mariani 3, Krncevic 3 (Colusso 71m), Sharne 5.

SYDNEY CITY: Pezzano 4, Souness 4, Cant 2, Spanos 2, Bruce 2, Barnes 2, Boden 3, Watson 4 (Trenter 86m), Kosmina 3, Murray 4, Silva 2 (Borges 77m).

Goals: 0-1 Kosmina (75m), 1-1 Cant (o.g. 90m), 2-1 Sharne (99m), 3-1 Sharne (106m).

Referee: H. Witschge; **Crowd:** 3,500. **Sent off:** Borges.



Ken Lindsay carried off the field after suffering a double fracture in extra time of the match. A "charity" match...

SYDNEY

By Andrew Dettre



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Marconi captain Ivo Prskalo with the Charity Challenge trophy, a Stuart Crystal.

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PM'S CUP TO NEWCASTLE

The Prime Minister's Cup remains at Newcastle for the third year running when the Canberra Arrows were well and truly blunted by workmanlike KB United performance.

A crowd of 4,528 turned up to savor three well taken goals by the home attack while tight defence kept Canberra scoreless.

What must have pleased coach Alan Vest was the manner in which the goal scoring chances were accepted.

All three were glit- edged and augur well for the tough season ahead.

On the other hand, new Canberra coach George Murray must be worried about the ineptitude of his striking formation.

The Newcastle defence, in particular goalkeeper Phil Dando, was untroubled throughout.

Coach Murray took off his twin strikers Sebastian Giampaolo

and Tony Brennan early in the second half and replaced them with Isaac Farrell and Walter Valeri.

But by this time Newcastle had the advantage of the stiff breeze and most of the action took place around goalkeeper Richard Wilson's charge.

There were no goals in the opening period but the initial score in the 54th minute was worth waiting for.

A shrewd transfer from Arno Bertogna, now at right back in place of the injured Paul Reaney, sent David Jones clean through a hesitant defence.

The bullocking striker showed commendable presence of mind by lofting the ball over the advancing Steve Hoszowski, who had taken over from Wilson after halftime.

Jones was again involved in Newcastle's second goal when he shared a dazzling switch of play with Malcolm McClelland and allowed the industrious redhead to pick his spot in the net.

With his first touch of the ball replacement forward Paul Burrows blazed in a ferocious volley in the 83rd minute on a skilful through-ball from Joe Senkalski.

Newcastle took the field without new signings Ian Buckley and Bob Mountford both suffering from nagging injuries, while fullback Paul Reaney's forced retirement at halftime with a slight groin injury

gave coach Alan Vest cause for further worry.

Earlier in the week the coach stated that he felt that there was much more depth in his squad than in the previous three seasons at Newcastle.

This was borne out on Sunday when the chosen 11 fought with fierce determination in a bid to cement a first team spot.

This was in direct contrast to Canberra who appeared rudderless and lacked understanding at vital times up front when the Newcastle defence was stretched.

Further evidence of the Newcastle KB United administration's attempts to popularise the code in the district is the announcement of an intriguing challenge match to assist famous cricketer Doug Walters' Benefit Year.

Secretary Paul Trisley announced that a representative side from the Northern NSW Soccer Federation will provide the opposition under floodlights at Macquarie Field on March 25.

President Stefan Kamasz said he was delighted that the Northern NSW Federation was involved in the recognition of one of the North's greatest sportsmen.

It is hoped that Australian fast bowler Jeff Thomson, who has claims to being a better than average soccer player will come down from Brisbane for the

NEWCASTLE

By Myles Hay

Cole rues miss in Dinamo draw

It's just got to be sickening. You only get once chance like that a match and I should have put it away.

"But the keeper went down early so I tried to round him yet he managed to take the ball from me."

The man lamenting the miss of the match was Gary Cole.

The battering warrior from Heidelberg broke onto an Alan Davidson through-pass in the 57th minute of the match and could have increased Victoria's lead and confidence in a highly entertaining pipe-opener to the season.

But the big man shouldn't feel too disappointed.

As Victorian coach Len McKendry pointed out "you've got to miss some to score some."

And the striker more than atoned for his miss by forcing Dinamo keeper Zelimir Stincic into the save of the game in the dying stages.

Kenny Murphy provided the intelligent pass from the left this time and Cole hammered it on the volley only to see the 'keeper move like lightning to turn the shot for a corner.

The striker earned praise from Dinamo coach Miroslav Blazevic.

"He stood out with the No. 10 (Jimmy Rooney) as the best players in a team which plays good standard soccer."

"Victoria was the best side of the teams we played in Australia."

"They are well organised, showed a lot of determination and scored a good goal through their aggressive tempo."

The "good" goal came six minutes after the restart through a good run by Rooney who crossed from the byline.

Jim Campbell touched the ball on and Jamie Paton was on hand to ram it over the goal line.

The goal made a match out of the remainder of the half stinging Dinamo into action.

"I felt sure we would win when being a goal down," Blazevic said referring to the period of dominance by Dinamo in the second half.

The equaliser was something special.

Midfielder Mladen Munjakovic made ground down the right and from 30 yards out fired an unstoppable shot from a difficult angle landing the ball in the top left hand corner.

The shot caught Peter Laumets off his line but it's doubtful whether he could have got a hand to

early match between the Cricket All Stars and the Media Muddlers.

Newcastle v Canberra 3-0.

Newcastle KB United: Dando (Gosling 83m), Reaney (Sneddon 45m), Drinkwater, Bertogna, Curran; Senkalski, Sumner, Mason; Heys, McClelland, Jones (Burrows 81m).

Canberra: Wilson (Hoszowski 45m), R. O'Shea, Stark, M. O'Shea, Williams; Byrne Cole, J. O'Shea; McClaren, Giampaolo (Valeri 82m), Brennan (Farrell 62m). Goals: Jones 54m, McClelland 71m, Burrows 83m.

Referee: J. Reeves; crowd: 4,528; cautions: Williams, Mason.

DUTCH ACE FOR CANBERRA

Canberra Arrows seem certain to sign a Dutch defender who played in a trial match for the club against Blacktown Demons over two weeks ago.

He is Johan Masse, 24, a sweeper over 190 cm. tall who has played for a first division Dutch club Telstar Velsen and NEC Nijmegen.

It is reported that a French professional club wanted to buy him, but as his Australian wife prefers to live in Australia and Canberra in particular, he has offered to play for the Canberra Arrows.

With the departure of young though experienced defenders Danny Moulis to Sydney Olympians and Mike Milovanovic to Blacktown Demons, an extra defender was just

what the Arrows needed.

Masse whose style is reminiscent of the great Czech defender Anton Ondrus, was the player of the match against Blacktown and was given an ovation on leaving the pitch, having given the spectators a fine display of his ball skills and perceptive passing.

Subject to an international clearance and his return from a quick trip to Holland, club officials hope that Masse will line up against Preston Rams for the inaugural PSL fixture on February 25.

At the same time, Canberra have regretfully placed utility player Terry Byrne on the transfer list, for \$25,000.

This move follows a breakdown in negotiations between the club and Byrne on the conditions of his services for 1981.

The 22-year-old Englishman joined Canberra City in 1978 as a defender from Preston North End, but was converted into an attacker by John Warren.

He has been the top scorer for Canberra for the past three seasons and has recently demonstrated his versatility as an attacking midfielder.

Canberra officially announced the name of a sponsor for their Youth League team.

The Shop-Rite supermarket chain has agreed to sponsor the team for \$12,000 for the season.

The first instalment of \$2,000 was handed over to Canberra Arrows President Theo Moulis at a function held at the club premises recently.

CANBERRA

By Peter Kunz

Victoria v Dinamo Zagreb 1-1.

Scorers: Paton (51m), Munjakovic (62m), at Olympic Park Melbourne, crowd 15,000.

Referee: David Yelland.

Victoria: Laumets, Yzendoorn, Gardiner, Tansey, Kokoska, Davidson, Rooney, Campbell, Paton, Cole, Murphy.

Dinamo: Stincic, Jovicevic, Zajec, Bogdan, Cvetkovic, Kurtela, Mustedanagic, Munjakovic, Deveric, Mlinaric, Kovacevic.

— P. Galea

LINDSAY OUT FOR '81

Marconi's utility player Ken Lindsay is unlikely to play for many months — perhaps not until next year.

Last Friday, in the match against Sydney City, Lindsay suffered a double fracture of his tibia — a four-inch break.

He will have to spend several weeks in traction in hospital.

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Trials for U-14, U-15 & U-16 Youth League teams will be held every Tuesday & Thursday commencing at 5.30pm, for the next three weeks at Timbrell Park, Five Dock.

For further enquiries ring Harry Ambrose on 820187 or Tony Raciti on 798 4182 anytime.

REGISTRATION DAY

For the club's U-8 through to all-age teams will be held on February 7 to 14 from 2 to 4pm at Leichhardt Oval, No.2, Leichhardt.

For further enquiries ring secretary, Graham Lenehan on 82 0187, anytime.



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AUSTRALIA, HERE WE COME!

U.S. qualifies for October's World Youth Cup finals "Down Under."

By Ray Halle

The United States national youth team celebrated its greatest achievement to date when it defeated Honduras on penalty kicks in the CONCACAF tournament to qualify for the Youth World Cup.

The match took place at RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C. The U.S. team joins Mexico, which defeated Canada in the semifinals, also on penalty kicks, as representatives of the region for the right to compete in Australia in October for the youth championship of the world.

CONCACAF is that region of the world which includes Central and North America and the Caribbean Islands, and is one of six areas worldwide which sends representatives to the tournament, the third such event to be held.

Coca-Cola has sponsored the Youth World Cup since its inception in 1977. It is conducted every two years by FIFA, the world governing body of soccer, and is a youth version of the World Cup, involving players under the age of 19. The Soviet Union won the first series, held in Tunisia, and in 1979, Argentina was victorious in Japan.

Equally significant to the U.S. qualifying is the fact that the United States hosted the CONCACAF elimination rounds. It's the first time this nation has staged an international tournament of this magnitude. Initial competition took place between 18 nations in four regions of the country—California, Texas, Illinois and New Jersey. The U.S. team competed in Princeton with four other countries and was undefeated, beating Barbados

U.S. NATIONAL YOUTH TEAM

Martin Lemon—goalkeeper—Sammamish High School (hometown: Bellevue, WA)
Craig Scarpelli—goalkeeper—University of Tampa (Brick Township, NJ)
Jay Ainslie—defender—University of North Carolina (Miami, FL)
Carl Bennett—defender—Dallas Tornado (Lake City, WA)
Bill McKeon—defender—St. Louis University (St. Louis, MO)
Mike Mendez—defender—Christian Brothers College (St. Louis, MO)
Eric Reese—defender—Pierce Junior College (Simi Valley, CA)
Darryl Doran—midfielder—Christian Brothers College (St. Louis, MO)
Brian Fuerst—midfielder—Sharkstown Senior High School (Houston, TX)
Chris Hundelt—midfielder—Rosary High School (Spanish Lake, MO)
Dave McMullen—midfielder—University of Tampa (Seattle, WA)
Keith Meyer—midfielder—Indiana University (St. Louis, MO)
Todd Soldana—midfielder—Los Angeles Aztecs (Redondo Beach, CA)
John Stollmeyer—midfielder—Jefferson High School (Annandale, VA)
Kevin Fauser—forward—Parkview High School (Atlanta, GA)
Darryl Gee—forward—Cosmos (Columbia, MD)
Grant Gollnick—forward—California State-Hayward (Walnut Creek, CA)
Tom Kain—forward—Wall High School (Wall, NJ)
David Lischner—forward—Cherry Hill West High School (Cherry Hill, NJ)
Steve McLean—forward—Philadelphia Textile (Kearny, NJ)
Peter Skouras—forward—California Sunshine (Beverly Hills, CA)
Tim Wittman—forward—Calvert Hall Prep (Baltimore, MD)
Sam Zigelboim—forward—FL Lauderdale Strikers (Miami, FL)

5-0, Netherlands Antilles 3-0, El Salvador 2-0 and Antigua 3-1.

The Americans advanced to the quarterfinals in Washington, D.C., where they defeated Bermuda 2-1 in a game in which both teams played nervously. Honduras thrashed Netherlands Antilles 8-1 in the other half of the double-header to set up a semifinal match between the United States and Honduras. Meantime, Canada and Mexico, both of whom were qualifiers for the 1979 finals in Japan, emerged winners from their quarterfinals. Two of these four teams would advance to the World Youth Cup

in Australia later this year.

Mexico and Canada were tied 1-1 at the half when a torrential downpour flooded the field and turned the contest into a surfing duel. Neither team could score in overtime and Mexico came through in the penalty shootout, 3-2.

The rain subsided a bit for the U.S.-Honduras match, but the wet turf affected the quickness of the Honduras team. The Americans scored in the first half on a penalty shot by John Stollmeyer of Virginia, but Honduras equalized in the second half off a corner kick. U.S. goalie Craig Scarpelli of New Jersey was spectacular, turning away serious efforts by the Hondurans, and after the two overtime periods, the teams remained deadlocked. Nine penalty kicks were taken with the last one by Honduras hitting the cross bar!

The final at Giants Stadium between Mexico and the U.S. was purely academic, as both teams had already qualified for Australia. The Mexicans won 2-0, giving the American boys a taste of what lies ahead in Australia.

Regardless, this event, and the unprecedented success of the national youth team, is a milestone in soccer for the United States.

With the 8th CONCACAF Youth Championship now history and with the United States national youth team successful in its goal of qualifying for the World Youth Cup, national coach Walt Chyzowych is looking ahead to the 1981 world tournament in Australia.

"We'll have an extensive training program for Australia. I'd like the team to play at least 20 exhibitions before then," said Chyzowych, the head coach for youth, Olympic, and national teams.

"I expect a nucleus of the present youth team to be with us again this year, but at the same time, I'm confident we'll improve the squad in some areas. We've got a great group to build from." □

CONCACAF STATISTICS

RESULTS

PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

United States 5, Barbados 0
 El Salvador 5, Antigua 0
 Jamaica 0, Trinidad/Tobago 0
 *Canada 1, Puerto Rico 0
 Costa Rica 3, Cuba 1
 Mexico 3, Dominican Republic 0
 United States 3, Netherlands Antilles 0
 El Salvador 3, Barbados 0
 Canada 0, Guatemala 0
 *Trinidad/Tobago 2, Puerto Rico 1
 Mexico 0, Cuba 0
 Antigua 1, Barbados 0
 Netherlands Antilles 2, El Salvador 1
 Surinam 4, Grenada 0
 Honduras 3, Bermuda 1

*Puerto Rico 1, Jamaica 1
 Trinidad/Tobago 1, Guatemala 1
 Dominican Republic 2, Costa Rica 1
 United States 2, El Salvador 0
 Netherlands Antilles 3, Antigua 0
 Bermuda 1, Surinam 0
 Honduras 0, Grenada 0
 Canada 2, Trinidad/Tobago 1
 Guatemala 0, Jamaica 0
 Cuba 2, Dominican Republic 0
 United States 3, Antigua 1
 Netherlands Antilles 3, Barbados 2
 Bermuda 6, Grenada 2
 Honduras 1, Surinam 0
 Canada 0, Jamaica 0
 Mexico 4, Costa Rica 1

*Games involving Puerto Rico do not count in standings. Puerto Rico disqualified by Disciplinary Committee for using ineligible players.

QUARTERFINALS

United States—Bermuda 2-1
 Honduras—Netherlands Antilles 8-1
 Canada—Cuba 3-0
 Mexico—Guatemala 2-0

SEMIFINALS

Mexico—Canada 4-3 (on penalty kicks)
 United States—Honduras 9-8 (on penalty kicks)

FINAL

Mexico—United States 2-0

CANBERRA'S YOUTH WORLD CUP KIDS

The draw for the World Youth Cup will take place in Canberra on March 31.

Girls representing the 16 finalists will be present.

Here are two more of the lovely "World Cup Kids" — with two others introduced next week.

ITALY

LUISA CAPEZIO

Born: 3/3/72 in Canberra
 Height: 131 1/2 cm. Hair: Brown Eyes: Brown
 School: St. Thomas More Grade: 4
 Languages: English, a little Italian
 Brothers: Don, 17, John 15
 Sisters: —
 Father born in: Potenza, Italy
 Mother born in: Potenza
 Favorite other PSL team: Marconi
 Overseas teams: Napoli
 Food: Rice bubbles, Lasagne
 Musical Group: Mi-Sex
 T.V. Show: Cartoons
 Other sport: Softball
 Likes: My cat
 Dislikes: Spiders
 What I want to be: Veterinarian



ENGLAND

TIFFANY KELLY

Born: 17/1/72 in Canberra
 Height: 136 cm. Hair: Light Brown Eyes: Brown
 School: Urambi Grade: 4
 Languages: English
 Brothers: —
 Sisters: Tammy, 2
 Father born in: Glasgow, Scotland
 Mother born in: Basingstoke, Hampshire, England
 Favorite other PSL team: Brisbane Lions
 Overseas team: Manchester Utd.
 Food: Hamburgers, hot dogs
 Musical Group: Cheap Trick
 T.V. Show: The Goodies, Doctor Who
 Other sport: Netball
 Likes: Horses, birds
 Dislikes: Hurting myself
 What I want to be: Movie star



Kickaburra

THEY SAID IT...

Cruyff: "I may sign with second division Spanish club Levante — if they are prepared to clear up my debt to the Spanish Tax Office."

German manager Jupp Derwall: "I had a long talk to Beckenbauer and he told me that if he was needed, he'd be happy to play for the national team again."

Claudio Sulser, Switzerland's star player, studying international law at Zurich University: "I have refused many offers from foreign clubs to stay with Grasshoppers. If ever I would play outside Switzerland, it would be in Italy as my mother tongue is Italian anyway."

Kalle Rummenigge, West Germany's wing star: "Manager Jupp Derwall's excuse for our failure in Montevideo is a lot of hogwash. He says we didn't stick to his instructions. Derwall knows it's not true."

Roque Gaston Maspoli, coach of Uruguay: "I have had my contract extended until after the 1982 World Cup finals. Soon I will announce my 18-man squad which I intend to keep intact for the next 18 months."

Dutch national team player Benny Wijnstekers: "There is absolutely no one in our team now who can dictate play. It wasn't manager Zwartkruis who failed in Montevideo but us, players."

Dutch reforms

The Dutch Association is proposing reforms to pep up the ailing national championship.

One idea is to eliminate drawn matches; if the game is tied, penalties will decide the winner.

The winner of a 'normal' match would get three points, a winner on penalties two, a loser on penalties one and an ordinary, old fashioned loser no point at all.

They also want to divide the first and second divisions into six sections with the winners meeting for the national title at the end of the season.

Digging deep

Several of Chile's top clubs have wealthy owners or sponsors.

Despite that — almost all are broke.

One which is thriving is Cobreloa, from the provincial mining town of Calama.

There the club's finances come from regular deductions from the miner's wage packets...

GERMANS RATED AS EUROPE'S TOP TEAM

According to "France Football" in Paris, West Germany was Europe's No. 1 team in 1980.

The French weekly compiles an annual ranking based on results — and the toughness of opponents.

Three countries went through 1980 undefeated: West Germany, USSR and Italy.

The ranking contains some massive shocks.

Holland, not so long ago at the top of the list, have slipped to equal 15th — having won only one of their nine matches, 1-0 against Greece.

Spain share 15th place with Holland, also having won a single match out of 11 — and this one against Holland...

Former greats such as Austria, Scotland, Hungary and Sweden, are languishing in the second half of the table.

Belgium, Wales and the two Irelands have moved up sharply in the rankings.

These were the 1980 results of the various teams:

1980 Results:

1. West Germany	11	9	2	—	29	9
2. Belgium	11	7	3	1	19	7
3. USSR	10	8	2	—	27	8
4. Italy	12	8	4	—	18	5
5. East Germany	7	4	3	—	10	4
6. England	13	8	2	3	23	13
7. Yugoslavia	7	5	—	2	14	8
8. Wales	6	4	—	2	13	3
9. Poland	11	6	4	5	26	20
10. Czechoslovakia	13	4	4	5	13	13
11. France	8	3	1	2	15	6
12. Eire	8	4	1	3	14	9
13. Nth. Ireland	9	5	3	1	11	5
14. Rumania	9	3	2	4	14	14
15. Spain	11	1	5	5	10	15
16. Holland	9	1	3	5	6	11
17. Austria	7	4	1	2	13	8
18. Portugal	6	2	2	2	7	8
19. Scotland	8	3	1	4	7	8
20. Hungary	10	3	2	5	15	19
21. Norway	7	4	1	2	14	11
22. Bulgaria	11	4	1	6	14	18
23. Denmark	9	3	2	4	12	11
24. Greece	11	1	4	6	7	19
25. Sweden	10	2	3	5	8	16
26. Switzerland	10	2	1	7	9	21
27. Albania	4	1	—	3	3	8
28. Finland	9	—	2	7	4	26
29. Iceland	7	1	2	4	7	17
30. Luxembourg	11	2	—	9	4	27
31. Cyprus	5	—	1	4	3	19
Turkey	3	—	—	3	1	9

(Malta did not play enough games to be ranked.)

Franz Beckenbauer (left) and Kalle Rummenigge at training.



Goodbye Malcolm

After a mere 55 days at the helm, Malcolm Allison has been sacked by Crystal Palace, struggling to avoid relegation.

Late in 1980, he was also dismissed by Manchester City.

The new Crystal Palace boss is Dario Gradi — from fourth division Wimbledon.

EUROPEAN CUP QUARTERFINAL DRAW

European Cup: Bayern Munich (W.Germany) v Banik Ostrava (Czech.); Spartak Moscow (USSR) v Real Madrid (Spain) in Tbilisi, Georgia; Liverpool (Eng.) v Cska Sofia (Bulg.); Internazionale Milan (Italy) v Red Star Beograd (Yugo.)

First leg matches will be played on March 4 and second legs on March 18.

UEFA CUP: Grasshoppers Zurich (Switz.) v Sochaux (France); Standard Liege (Belg.) v Cologne (W.Germ.); St. Etienne (France) v Ipswich Town (Eng.); AZ67 Alkmaar (Neth.) v Lokeren (Belg.)

CUPWINNERS CUP: West Ham (Eng.) v Dinamo Tbilisi (USSR); Fortuna Dusseldorf (W.Germ.) v Benfica Lisbon (Port.); Slavia Sofia (Bulg.) v Feyenoord Rotterdam (Neth.); Carl Zeiss Jena (E.Germ.) v Newport County (Wales).

St. Etienne's worries

The great French club, St. Etienne, is having troubles holding on to their expensive stars.

Several of them, including Platini, Larios, Janvion and Zimako will all finish their contracts in May and could move on to greener and richer pastures.

The best of them all, Platini, is almost certain to end up in Italy after June.

NOW IT'S SATURDAY

Rumania's national squad is in training camp in sunny Greece and will stay there until February 20. The Rumanian Association has decided to switch all first division matches from Sunday to Saturday from March.

IT'S SO REGULAR...

Cyprus has a sad record. Since their independence (1959) their national team has played 24 matches away from home, losing all 24, scoring two goals — and conceding an impressive 121.

EXILE HONORED

Jose Santamaria, current manager of Spain, has received his country's highest sporting award for services to soccer in the last 30 years — though he has spent 26 of them away from his homeland.

ROYAL DEMAND

On March 3, Hamburg will play the Moroccan Air Force in a friendly at Rabat. The king of Morocco, himself a soccer fan, has "arranged" a match fee of \$50,000 plus a right royal reception for the Germans.

ROSSI WANTED

The latest club to queue up for young Italian ace Paolo Rossi is Fiorentina, allegedly offering 3,500,000,000 liras or \$3.5 m. for his transfer. Others interested in Rossi include Napoli, AS Roma, Inter Milan and Juventus. However, Rossi's suspension has yet to be lifted by the Italian Association.

WALKER TO WALK?

The Swiss Federation will decide on February 21 whether to retain or sack national coach Leon Walker, bitterly criticised for the team's heavy defeats in South America, for his lack of diplomacy and treatment of players.

EXPATRIATES

Former Argentinian all-time star centre half Jose Varacka is now coaching in Colombia, in charge of champions Atletico Junior while his compatriot, also ex-international Osvaldo Zubeldia, is in charge of Nacional.

SEBES IS 75

Hungary's manager in the 1950s, Gusztav Sebes, has just celebrated his 75th birthday. It was under Sebes that Hungary created its magnificent Puskas-team. Today he works for the Federation as a match observer — and talent scout.

PAZ TO USA?

It doesn't take long for the American clubs to "produce" their own stars. New York Cosmos began negotiation with the young Uruguayan star Ruben Paz. Two other Uruguay stars from the Little World Cup series are also in demand: goalie Rodriguez may go to Independiente of Buenos Aires while striker Ramos to River Plate, a few miles away.

LURE OF SUN

South America is now the popular destination of European teams escaping the icy winter. The latest to set off to those sunny shores are East Germany and Hungary's crack clubs, Ferencvaros and Ujpest — both without their national team players as Hungary also happens to be there...

Latin champions

These are the champions of the various South American countries for 1980:

Brazil: Flamengo.
Argentina: Rosario Central
Uruguay: Nacional
Paraguay: Olimpia Asuncion
Colombia: Atletico Junior
Venezuela: Estudiantes Merida
Ecuador: Barcelona Guayaquil
Bolivia: Wilstermann
Chile: Cobreloa
Peru: Sporting Cristal



Argentina's Houseman.



Brazil's Valdomiro

Austrians peeved



Krankl, likely to play for Rapid Vienna.

Austria has demanded their 10 percent share of the available tickets for the World Cup match against Germany in Hamburg (April 29.)

Originally the Germans allocated only 4,000 to Austrian fans but, forced to observe the FIFA rule, had to increase this to 6,000.

The Austrians are unhappy enough about the fact that the match was taken to Hamburg — the furthest point from the Austrian border — instead of staging it in nearby Munich or Nurnberg.

BARCELONA IN CONSTANT MESS

Under pressure from the most success-hungry fans in their Nou Camp stadium, Barcelona, the beloved "Barça" of Catalonia, are fast becoming the worst managed club in Europe.

One crisis follows another, coaches and players are signed, sacked, paid off, recalled, sacked again and compensated, as the whim strikes president Jose Luis Nunez.

Last year's major crisis involved Johan Neeskens who couldn't get on with coach Joaquin Rife and was eventually sold to Cosmos.

When Rife came under heavy fire in the Press, president Nunez rushed to his aid, declaring: "Rife will stay with us as long as he likes."

Well, maybe he didn't like it: six weeks later he was sacked by Nunez himself.

KUBALA ARRIVES

In came to replace him the immortal Ladislao Kubala, hero of Barcelona as a great player from 1949 to the early 1960s, an all-time great and, for the past 10 years, national coach of Spain at \$80,000 p.a.

Kubala, now on a healthier \$120,000 p.a., took over as assistant under the freshly appointed Helenio Herrera, himself a reinstated relic of the past.

This lasted one month: Herrera was kicked upstairs to become technical director and Kubala took over as coach.

SCHUSTER UNSEEN

Then came the "Bernd Schuster Affair," the bizarre deal with the young German ace signed for \$2 million—by Herrera. Kubala admitted having seen him only twice, had no opinion about him—but he was stuck with Schuster.

Now Kubala had to make a decision to get rid of one of his two foreigners, the Austrian Hans Krankl or the Danish Alan Simonsen, to keep within the allowed quota.

As Krankl has just been brought back from Vienna, having been

sacked by Rife earlier and having been paid off for a year in advance (can you still follow?), Kubala decided that the Dane had to go.

Meantime Kubala also discovered that in newly signed Spaniard Quini, Barcelona would have an excellent central striker, so the decision switched back to Krankl who was given a \$540,000 golden handshake and sent back to Vienna, for the second time.

KOLN DISASTER

After all this came the traumatic UEFA Cup debacle, a 4-0 home defeat against FC Koln, coached by Rinus Michels who (the plot thickens) was in charge of Barcelona before Rife.

Straight after the match Nunez called a midnight board meeting and dismissed the "undismissable" Kubala, paying him off the rest of his two-year contract and, once again, putting the aging Herrera in charge.

Just in case you want to be really absorbed in this superb farce, let us add here that in 1960 Herrera himself, now about 64, was sacked by Barcelona, after a European Cup semifinal defeat against Real Madrid, the hated rivals.

Well, that's how Barcelona stands now: Rife gone, Kubala gone, Neeskens and Krankl gone and only president Nunez surviving relentlessly.

Right: Cause of the latest Barcelona storm, Schuster. Below: Asensi and Neeskens in happier days, winning the Cupwinners' Cup in '79.



England's schedule



Young England international Bryan Robson...

England face a heavy spring program, following the last round of the league season.

On May 16 they play Northern Ireland, on May 19 Wales and on May 23, Scotland, all in the British Championship.

On May 30 they play a World Cup match in Switzerland and on June

6 will meet Hungary, also for the World Cup.

There is also a chance that early May they may play Brazil at Wembley.

Manager Ron Greenwood's program difficulties will only increase if the various English clubs do well in the Euro-Cups.

POLL IN STH.AM.

Maradona is the undisputed king of South American soccer — so says a survey in the Argentinian weekly "El Grafico."

Having polled journalists throughout South America, the magazine came up with this order:

	Pts.
1. Diego Armando Maradona (Arg. Jun.)	485
2. Zico (Flamengo)	292
3. Ubaldo Matildo Fillol (River Plate)	120
4. Julio Cesar Romero (Cosmos)	85
5. Daniel Alberto Passarella (River Plate)	78
6. Falcão (Int. Porto Alegre)	64
7. Socrates (Corinthians Sao Paulo)	50
8. Hugo de Leon (Nacional Montevideo)	27
9. Willington Ortiz (Deportivo Cali)	19
10. Carlos Caszely (Colo Colo Santiago)	18
11. Julio Cesar Uribe (Sport. Cristal Lima)	17
12. Evaristo Isasi (Olimpia Asuncion), Ze Sergio (Sao Paulo)	16
14. Patricio Yanez (San Luis Quilota)	15
15. Teofilo Cubillas (Strikers F. Lauder.)	14
16. Toninho Cerezo (A. Mineiro Belo Hor.)	13
17. Ramon Angel Diaz (River Plate)	10
18. Elias Ricardo Figueroa (Pal. Santiago)	9
19. Juan Ramon Carrasco (Racing Avell.)	8
21. Ruben Paz (Penarol)	8
21. Batista (Int. Porto Alegre), Rodolfo Rodriguez (Nac. Montevideo)	7
24. Manuel Rojas (Palestino Santiago)	7
24. Ricardo Enrique Bochini (Ind. Avell.)	7
24. Francisco Marinho (Sao Paulo)	6
24. Waldemar Victorino (Nac. Mont.)	6
27. Reinaldo (Atletico Mineiro)	5

BRIEFLY...

• Czechoslovakia is touring in South America right now. From the team which visited Australia last year, a few are still there: Barmos, Jurkemik, Fiala, Kozak, Stambachr, Vizek, Nehoda and Masny.

• Danny Greaves, son of former star Jimmy, is playing for Southend in the English fourth division.

• Former Argentinian defender Silvio Marzolini is the new technical director of Boca Juniors in Buenos Aires.

• Zvezdan Cebinac, another Yugoslav, has become the new coach of the Swiss Grenchen where his countryman "Tshik" Cajkovski was sacked a few weeks ago.

• Gregorio Benito, Real Madrid's captain, has suffered a serious ligament injury and will be out of action for some months.

• The Swiss Federation has picked the venues for its World Cup matches at home: Hungary, April 28, in Geneva, England, May 30, in Basel, Rumania, November 11, in Zurich.

• Mario Kempes, the Argentinian striker of Valencia, is likely to leave the club after June 30. River Plate of Buenos Aires is interested in signing him.

• After an absence of seven years, Benfica will again have Jimmy Hagan as its coach.

• Orient has requested permission from the English FA that they be allowed to play five of their last six home matches on Sunday afternoon.

• Dave Sneddon, Kilmarnock, is the first Scottish manager to get the sack in 1981 — following his team's 7-0 loss to Dundee.

• Eusebio has returned home to Portugal — and is coaching Benfica's 10-12 year-old teams.

• A record? Palermo's (Italy) defender Ammoniaci went on as a replacement at halftime in a recent match — then was sent off for a brutal tackle 11 seconds later.

• Ipswich's Dutch midfielder Franz Thijssen wants to return to Holland after May — Feyenoord, Ajax and PSV Eindhoven are interested.

• Chelsea manager Geoff Hurst wants to sign Queens Park's Tony Currie, in preference to the Dutch Poortvliet.

• UEFA has established a committee to study the problem of advertising on jerseys.

• The Belgian Waregem have released the Argentinian World Cup star Ortiz and signed as a replacement his countryman, Jorge Armua, from the Huracan club.

• Andy Gray, the Scottish international, has recovered from his injury and has signed a new two-year contract with Wolves.

• Joao Leite, Brazil's international goalkeeper, is a practising Catholic priest.

• Roberto Rivelino, former Brazilian star now sweating for his millions in Saudi Arabia, has been suspended for three months after striking an opponent. His loss in that period: about \$80,000.

• Former manager of SV Hamburg, Dr. Peter Krohn, has become the public relations manager of the city's horse racing association.

• Leeds United are interested in signing the Austrian ace Hans Krankl though the \$900,000 demanded by Barcelona is cooling their ardor.

• Norwich are likely to sign Scottish international Derek Parlane for \$400,000.

FROM THE PRESS BOX

Sponsors come and go, some with fanfare, others through the fire exit — but one remains: Ampol.

They have been part of the Australian soccer scene since 1958, providing stability and permanency so often lacking in our set-up.

The traditional, pre-season Ampol Cup in Sydney starts off this week, so let's pay tribute to this great Australian company.

And, for good measure, fill up the car with Ampol.

It would be an exaggeration to claim that Dinamo Zagreb swept Australia off its feet.

They came quietly and late, put on four very ordinary displays, triggered off a minor diplomatic incident in Canberra and left, without too many of us likely to remember them a year from now.

In fact, they will be ranked among the less distinguished visitors in recent years.

Their only win was against a disorganised South Australia, who sacked their coach on the eve of the match; two draws and one defeat make up for a balanced record.

There was quite a stir last week when, on the eve of the Marconi-Datsun partnership announcement, the main Datsun dealers Capitol Motors seriously considered calling the deal off.

The reason was a big story two days before the official announcement, published in the "Daily Mirror".

This, according to the unhappy Marconi officials, broke an "embargo" on the story.

Well, not quite. The truth is there was no story and no embargo.

Everybody in soccer heard about the deal beforehand and even some of the details were known to many.

Including to Pressmen, of course. All but one elected to keep it quiet.

Perhaps clubs could learn from all this. What they have to do is fairly simple.

Once they are about to make a major announcement, such as this Datsun deal, they should send out a quick press release, giving some details, indicating when the full announcement will be made — and then put an official embargo on it.

This embargo, always respected by all newspapers, would ensure that the news is kept until a specified date.

Without it, it's just a matter of good luck

SPIDER'S NET WITH ALAN MAHER

The new season got underway last week and as I predicted, the Charity Challenge game between Marconi and Sydney City was no place to be for the faint-hearted.

The 3-1 win in our favor was very satisfying but there were no celebrations after the match because of one spiteful incident midway through the second period of extra time.

As a result of that, Ken Lindsay is today in the Nepean Hospital with a badly shattered right leg and is likely to be out of action for the rest of 1981.

The disturbing thing about this is that Lindsay, who is married with a young family and is self-employed, will now be off work for the next six months.

At the same time, the fellow who caused this terrible injury will simply miss one game of football...the mandatory sentence a player has to serve when he receives the red card.

Perhaps this method of disciplining offenders should be scrapped and each case dealt with on its merits.

In this particular instance this player should be made to sit out the same time that Ken Lindsay is on the sideline.

It's rather disturbing that at such an early stage of the season so many serious injuries could occur.

We have Ian Hunter, Mark Jankovics and now Ken Lindsay out of the team as well as Paul Degney, recovering after an operation.

At the same time, it was good to see another two players from the Marconi junior ranks coming into the first team and performing so well last Friday night.

Dragan Tomasich and Denis Colusso, who came through the juniors, joined the already established former local youngsters Peter Sharpe, Bertie Mariani, Peter Brogan and Gary Byrne to play a major role in the team's performance.

This goes to prove that if the clubs really adopt a youth policy, plan ahead and are prepared to give the young guys a go, they need not go overseas chasing players to strengthen their team.

whether a story can be kept on ice for days, let alone weeks.

We have seen the proof pages so we can leak the news — the 1981 Philips League handbook will be a unique 96-page compendium of information.

Published in co-operation with "Playbill," it will have another unique feature: it will be on sale throughout Australia for the first round of the Philips League matches, instead of being weeks if not months late.

Keep a few bob aside for it.

It's not all glamour, you know. The Philips League managership, that is.

Paul Kemp, the man holding down this position, is finding it out gradually.

His duties, responsibilities and even working hours cover a big range.

Last Friday he broke new ground. He spent hours at Redfern Oval, together with a handful of Marconi and Sydney City staff, to prepare the venue for the Charity Challenge Trophy game.

He was marking the lines, putting up the goalposts and even cutting the grass.

A bit unusual? Perhaps. But as the ground comes under the jurisdiction of the South Sydney Rugby League club, the ground staff refused to be involved in any physical work.

All we need now is a Turkish referee...

At the request of the New Zealand Soccer Association, the World Cup match against Australia has been brought forward by one day —

Yzendoorn for \$200,000

John Yzendoorn is back with Heidelberg United looking meaner and more aggressive than ever in his ambitious drive to the top.

The utility player spent six weeks at Ipswich Town in England after the end of the Socceroos tour and played in a number of Reserve matches for the club.

He was used in mid-field against sides like Arsenal and Chelsea and came through quite well.

He also travelled with the first team for the match at Tottenham "probably for the experience."

At the end of his trial Ipswich manager Bobby Robson told Yzendoorn he was very interested in signing him but to let the matter slide for "eight weeks or so."

The same message has been relayed to Heidelberg and Yzendoorn is adamant he will be going back to try and make it in the UK.

Whether it is in eight weeks or before the English season kick off in July is immaterial.

The fact remains that he's unlikely to be available for Australia's vital World Cup campaign IF we qualify for the Asian group play-offs.

If, as Yzendoorn is saying, Ipswich maintain their interest they'll have to be prepared to pay for it.

Already Heidelberg is saying that if they sell him they "will be able to build their ground" with the money and figures of \$200,000 are already being mentioned as the likely transfer fee.

The Yzendoorn-affair has been the main topic of interest at the club since the coaching saga in which Manny Poulakakis de-throned Len McKendry.

Training has been progressing "quite nicely thank you" and all the players whose contracts expired have renewed their allegiance to the club.

Jim Campbell was the last to sign on after debating the issue over more money the longest. But he, too, has been dealt with.

Having the same squad which won the

Grand Final should ensure the club a successful season and evergreen fullback Arthur McMillan has predicted that "providing we start off well we've got a good chance of winning the League."

However, it remains to be seen whether Poulakakis will make changes to the side.

Midfielder Ken Taylor and defender Bob Provan were both on the outer last year under McKendry after commanding regular spots in the side when Poulakakis was fast at the helm.

And the new coach has already promised the committee that the upcoming junior players at the club will get a chance to prove their potential.

Charlie Yankos, the young fullback is one that immediately comes to mind having already played in the trial matches.

The only new player the club has signed is veteran goalkeeper Jack Reilly.

Now 37, the former Socceroo is still keen to prove his value and will be pushing Jeff Oliver hard for a spot in the side.

Moullis missed

Attempts were made to sign Danny Moullis from Canberra but the club's offer fell way below Sydney Olympic's.

And in the past fortnight an attempt to lure Youth International John Little from Altona City also seems to have failed.

The youngster is playing three clubs off against each other and may eventually sign for Preston.

The club committee is the youngest ever and the new president Arthur Loustas, 28, is much younger than Jimmy Rooney, Pat Bannon and Arthur McMillan...

But so far they have acted level-headedly and handled the coaching situation with poise.

They have yet to be tested under pressure, however, and the crunch will come if they don't start off too well.

— Peter Desira

to April 25.

Which, of course, is Anzac Day...

So the two nations, allies, friendly neighbours and keen rivals, will fight out their own Gallipoli in Auckland.

In the last fortnight we've been to four different club functions and the message begins to sink in: club officials are seldom good public speakers.

Some, in fact, are bad enough to enter politics. It's not so much that their delivery is wrong but, quite often, they don't know what to say.

What surprises me is that hardly any of them bother to have speech notes prepared for them, let alone an entire speech.

This shouldn't carry any stigma. If the brilliant Gough Whitlam, with the ready wit and natural oratorical skill, could employ two fulltime speechwriters when he was Prime Minister, surely the clubs could also consider engaging a professional journalist to help their leading officials on important occasions.

Rudi Gutendorf's contract as national coach expires on August 31 — halfway through our elimination matches.

However, there is a built-in option for both sides to renew the agreement until after the 1981 World Cup finals.

If Australia looks like getting through its preliminary group, Rudi is certain to stay on.

Everything hinges on the two matches against New Zealand now; if we fail in these (say, lose one and draw one), chances are that the ASF will not need a national coach for quite a while.

— a. dettre

Tokyo tie on Channel 0

Channel 0-28 will televise the Intercontinental Cup final, from Tokyo on Wednesday, February 11.

It will be a 'live' telecast — almost. The match starts in Tokyo at 2pm, Sydney time and will be screened in Sydney and Melbourne at 6pm.

The match will be between Nottingham Forest of England and Nacional of Uruguay.

Nacional of Uruguay will play Australia at Melbourne's Olympic Park on Wednesday, February 18, the match starting at 8.30pm.

The Uruguayan aces will arrive from Tokyo on the previous Saturday, February 14 and will stay at the Park Royal Motel, Melbourne.

Next week: stories on Nacional and its stars.

So that you can follow the match on TV with greater interest, these are the likely teams:

Nottingham: Peter Shilton — Viv Anderson, Barry Lloyd, Kenny Burns, Frank Gray — John McGovern, Martin O'Neill, Raimondo Ponte, John Robertson, Ian Wallace, Trevor Francis.

Nacional: Rodolfo Rodriguez — Jose Moreira, Hugo de Leon, Juan Carlos Blanco, Washington Gonzalez, Victor Esparrago, Eduardo de la Pena, Arsenio Luzardo, Alberto Bica, Waldemar Victorino, Julio Cesar Morales.



Marconi purring along



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